

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2017

<b>Project Name:</b>	<b>Fight Against Torture and Impunity</b>
<b>Donors:</b>	European Union EIDHR
<b>Contact person and email:</b>	Tijana Jovanović-Dačić <a href="mailto:tijanaeror@gmail.com">tijanaeror@gmail.com</a>
<p><b>Short project description:</b></p> <p>Overall objective of the project is to contribute to the eradication of torture and impunity in Serbian society and healing from consequences of torture. Overall objective will be reached through the following specific objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Fight against torture and impunity through monitoring the implementation of the Action plan for the Chapter 23 and advocating for legislative changes.</li> <li>2) Ensuring adequate redress and rehabilitation of victims through campaigning for right for rehabilitation and redress.</li> <li>3) Provision of comprehensive and effective rehabilitation programme for victims.</li> </ol> <p>Expected results of the project are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 – Amendments to legislation of domestic Criminal Code formulated by working groups consisting of wide scope of stakeholders (victims, human rights defenders...)</li> <li>2 – Relevant stakeholders informed and included in implementation of changes in legislation</li> <li>3 – Strategy for implementation of right for rehabilitation created and promoted among relevant stakeholders</li> <li>4 – Raised awareness of general public about problems of torture victims</li> <li>5 – Further strengthening of capacities of Ombudspersons office through monitoring visits of closed institutions</li> <li>6 – Establishing adequate processes and reducing complaints on treatment of Persons Deprived of their Liberty by government officials</li> <li>7 – Association of ex-detainees revitalised and members involved in actions related to fight for their rights for redress and rehabilitation</li> <li>8 – Consequences of torture to physical and psychological health of torture victims and their family members diminished</li> </ol> <p>Project is implemented in partnership with Lawyers' Committee for Human Rights YUCOM.</p> <p><b>Project duration: December 2017 – November 2019</b></p>	
<p><b>Main results:</b></p> <p>Overall evaluation of project results is indicating high level of achievements of set targets. Project activities were implemented in timely manner with no significant delays or changes in project implementation. Ongoing internal monitoring and evaluation throughout the project implementation period enabled timely identification of potential challenges, and prompt and adequate response, thus ensuring quality execution of project activities. Different tools were used for monitoring progress: logical framework matrix, action plan, budget monthly reports, activity reports, project staff meetings, etc.</p> <p>Project objectives proved to be relevant to the current situation in Serbian society, and the project implementation coincided with the moment of high interest towards monitoring of implementation of recommendation of different UN mechanisms, and when the efforts in that direction were supported by other international and national actors such the OHCHR and the OSCE Mission to Serbia. Project partners used the momentum, joined the initiatives and acted together towards the mutual goal thus increasing the impact of the project.</p> <p>Advocacy efforts towards implementation of the UN CAT recommendations regarding legislative changes emphasized in the first project objective have received positive response and led to tangible results (defined implementation road map, indicators, activities and draft amendment proposal for changes in the Criminal Code).</p> <p>At the same time provision of comprehensive rehabilitation services including psychological,</p>	

psychiatric, medical and legal services and litigation confirmed high need for such assistance among target beneficiaries. Through these activities project contributed to the execution of the right to rehabilitation of torture victims. However, understanding and knowledge of full meaning and scope of the right to rehabilitation and redress for torture victims, along with the motivation of relevant stakeholders for undertaking more active role and ultimately, concrete steps towards ensuring it, was not at the expected level. Therefore, much of the project partners' efforts were invested into the raising the knowledge and interest for this issue among relevant governmental and civil society actors.

Overall conclusion is that actions undertaken through this project are still relevant in the current context in Serbia, and although some concrete steps and actions were undertaken, there is also a huge need for continuation of similar efforts in order to ensure final impact and eradication of torture in Serbian society.



<b>Project Name:</b>	<b>Better life for refugees and migrants</b>
<b>Donors:</b>	Grupa 484 and Royal Norwegian Embassy
<b>Contact person and email:</b>	Bojana Trivuncic <a href="mailto:bzivanovic@ian.org.rs">bzivanovic@ian.org.rs</a>
<b>Short project description:</b>	
<p>The goal of the project is to improve the quality of life of refugees and migrants settled in the Reception centre in Bosilegrad and to encourage their integration into local society.</p> <p>Within the scope of this project that lasts until 28th of February, IAN is providing psycho-social support through psychological workshops and creative workshops for refugee women and through creative/musical workshops with refugee children. Creative workshops with women and children are facilitated by experienced artists from "MOTO" NGO. Through games, drawings, cartoons with musical themes, songs, dances from different regions, playing on different instruments of classical music children are playing and socializing. IAN also built a children playground that consist of seesaws, swings, climbing irons and other facilities for playing, that is installed in the yard of reception centre in Bosilegrad. Serbian language courses are organized for the refugee population too. Local teacher for Serbian language is providing classes for refugee children and adults who are interested in learning Serbian language.</p> <p>At the end of the project Final event of the project will be organized. The event will be composed of set of activities including exhibition of children's drawings and items produced within artistic workshops, theatre play and children's musical show. Theatre play will be created based on personal stories of refugees and performed in front of local community and refugee population in Bosilegrad. Through these activities local population will be introduced with refugee cultures and will be more aware about the refugee problems.</p>	
<b>Project duration: September 2017 – March 2018</b>	
<b>Main results:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Children playground in the yard of reception centre in Bosilegrad was installed with seesaws, swings, climbing irons and other facilities for playing.</li> <li>- IAN engaged local teacher for Serbian language that provided classes for refugee children and</li> </ul>	

adults throughout project implementation.

- 12 psychological workshops were organized for refugee/migrant women. Workshops were facilitated by IAN psychologists/psychotherapists. Through this activity women were provided psychological counselling, group psychotherapy and psycho-education related to refugee, trauma and its consequences, gender-based violence, integration issues etc. Workshops were held throughout the whole project period.

- 12 creative workshops for women refugees/migrants and local women were held in the 6 months period. Items produced within the workshops were presented at final event of the project – public trade fair and public theatre-play.

- In collaboration with MOTO a theatre play was produced based on psychological workshop communication, shared experience and with the approval of workshop participants.

- 12 workshops for children were organized. Through games, drawings, cartoons with musical themes, songs and dances from different regions, then introducing the different instruments of classical music and children's instruments, children were motivated to actively engage themselves in playing and singing. Children from local community from Bosilegrad were also included in those workshops.

- IAN organized the final event of the project in collaboration with local authorities in Bosilegrad. The event was organized at local theatre and included exhibition of craft and art works produced during creative workshops, folklore dances and theatre play “I wish I wasn’t a woman”. Event gathered local community, refugees/migrants residing in Bosilegrad, and important stakeholders.



<b>Project Name:</b>	<b>Early identification and proper assistance to torture victims among refugees from Middle East and North Africa</b>
<b>Donors:</b>	UNVFVT
<b>Contact person and email:</b>	Jelena Lončarević jbakalic@ian.org.rs
<p><b>Short project description:</b> Overall aim of the project is to contribute to well-being, improvement of health and psychological status, and quality of life of torture victims and their family members – refugees from Middle East and North Africa, currently settled in Serbia. The aim will be achieved through comprehensive assistance that includes psychological, medical and legal assistance to torture victims and their family members. Intensive cooperation with various stakeholders (Ombudsperson’s office, asylum centres, international and national NGOs) will contribute to prompt and adequate reaction and assistance to those who are in need.</p> <p>Within the scope of this project IAN CRTV is providing medical and psychological assistance to refugees who are settled in the reception centre in Bosilegrad, with the focus on torture victims among them. IAN CRTV is also providing assistance to torture victims and family members in its Belgrade office. In collaboration with other NGOs that are providing assistance to refugees, many torture victims and victims of ill treatment and sexual abuses are referred to our centre for specialized services, such as psychotherapy, psychological and psychiatric assistance.</p> <p><b>Project duration: January 2017 – December 2017</b></p>	

**Main results:** Medical assistance was provided to 205 victims of torture and their family members. The usual health problems were related to bacterial and viral infections, but some health problems were related to torture experience, like, constant body pains, headaches, hypertension, hormonal diseases, mental health problems that needed psychiatric assistance. With adequate prescribed medicines, and regular follow up of victims' health conditions good results were made. Health conditions of clients were improved. Clients shared with IAN staff, that the most important for them was the feeling of security, safety and that someone is taking care of them. Regarding psychological assistance evaluation of group psychotherapy was made. At the beginning of group psychotherapy and after the 12 group sessions clients fulfilled psychological questionnaires (translated in their own language) that measure general symptomatology (SCL), symptoms of PTSD (HTQ) and quality of life (QOL). Results showed that general symptomatology and symptoms of PTSD are decreased and quality of life is improved. Clients that received individual psychotherapy improved their mental health condition after three months of therapy. When psychotherapy is not indicative psychological counselling and support related to different issues (family problems, problems of living in big reception centres, living in exile, etc.) are also very important for overall being of clients.

<b>Project Name:</b>	<b>Effective early identification and documentation of torture among refugees and asylum seekers</b>
<b>Donors:</b>	UNVFVT
<b>Contact person and email:</b>	Jelena Lončarević jbakalic@ian.org.rs
<p><b>Short project description:</b> Objective of the project is to contribute to more adequate identification and documentation of consequences of torture among asylum seekers. This project is developed in order to assist health professionals and other relevant stakeholders in dealing with new, burning issue on increased number of asylum seekers in Serbia. Among asylum seekers, there is great number of those who have been subjected to torture, , some of them in their country of origin, some of them are victims of torture and ill treatment in the transit countries (like Bulgaria) and some of them were tortured in both places. Staff dealing with asylum seekers is in need for information and knowledge that would help them to adequately admit and assist torture victims among asylum seekers. They will be trained in identification and documentation of torture, as well as in issues concerning asylum. Benefits for victims of torture will be multiple. They will have more adequate treatment, better recognition of their needs, and adequate referral to needed assistance. In addition, they will have proof of survived torture which can help them to receive asylum and find better life. Issues to be covered during the training: - Asylum system in Serbia and torture victims among asylum seekers - Definition of torture and introduction to international and national documents and bodies dealing with torture issues and prohibition of torture - Types of torture - Introduction to Istanbul Protocol - Psychological consequences of torture - Physical consequences of torture - Basic principles of interviewing victims of torture - Treatment and referrals for torture victims.</p> <p><b>Project duration: January 2017 – December 2017</b></p>	
<p><b>Main Results:</b> Training on effective identification and documentation on torture provided participants enough knowledge firstly about what torture is, what is definition of torture and what are relevant international and national standards related to torture. They learnt what state obligations are, when we talk about rehabilitation of torture survivors, reparation and redress as well as non-refoulement. Training gave participants enough knowledge while working with refugees, migrants or asylum seekers to recognize the most vulnerable among them and to recognize psychological, behavioural and physical consequences torture experience. After the training they gained basic knowledge how to document torture and provide adequate report, and finally to do a proper referral.</p>	